

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAPE T 00755 111652Z

44

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 IO-10 EUR-12 SCCT-01 CU-04 /093 W

----- 064278

R 111415Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4167

INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 0755

E.O.11652:N/A

TAGS :PINS,PINT,SF

SUBJ :CHURCHES CALL ON SAG TO CHARGE OR RELEASE

SASO DETAINEES

REF :CAPE TOWN 741 AND DURBAN 397

1. PETITION HAS BEEN SENT TO PRIME MINISTER AND MINJUSTICE BY WHITE ENGLISH-SPEAKING AND BLACK CHURCH LEADERS URGING GOVERNMENT TO BRING SOUTH AFRICAN STUDENT ORGANIZATION(SASO) AND OTHER BLACK DETAINEES TO TRIAL OR FREE THEM(REFTELS). PETITION NOTES RUMORS CIRCULATING CONCERNING TREATMENT OF PRISONERS AND STATES THAT THESE 'WOULD NOT BE GIVEN ANY CREDENCE IF THE NORMAL PROCESSES OF LAW WERE FOLLOWED' AND DETAINEES BROUGHT TO TRIAL SPEEDILY.

2. AMONG SIGNERS OF PETITION ARE CAPE TOWN ANGLICAN ARCH-BISHOP BILL BURNETT; ROMAN CATHOLIC CARDINAL OWEN MCCANN; GENERAL SECRETARY OF SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES(SACC) JOHN REES; CHAIRMAN OF MORAVIAN CHURCH, REVEREND A.W. HABELGAARN; MODERATOR OF BANTU PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AND VICE-PRESIDENT OF SACC, G.T. VIKA AND PRESIDENT OF METHODIST CHURCH, REV. V. HARRIS.

3. PRESS REPORTS THAT DETAINEES MAY BE BROUGHT TO TRIAL BEFORE  
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END OF YEAR ON CHARGES UNDER TERRORISM ACT AND SUPPRESSION

OF COMMUNISM ACT. SUNDAY EXPRESS REPORTS THAT TRIALS MAY  
TAKE PLACE IN PRETORIA AND/OR DURBAN WITHIN NEXT TWO MONTHS.  
GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS HAVE REFUSED TO COMMENT ON THESE  
REPORTS.

4. MEANWHILE, IN DURBAN ONE OF THOSE DETAINED SINCE SEPT 25  
HAS BEEN RELEASED. MRS. VINO COOPER; WHO HAD BEEN HELD INCOMMUNICADO  
UNDER PROVISIONS OF THE TERRORISM ACT, WAS CHARGED UNDER THE  
THE RIOTOUS ASSEMBLIES ACT ON NOV 8 AND  
RELEASED ON BAIL. MRS. COOPER'S HUSBAND, SATHASIVAN,  
REMAINS IN JAIL AND IS SUBJECT OF PETITION TO SUPREME COURT  
ALLEGING THAT HE AND FOUR OTHER HAVE BEEN MISTREATED WHILE  
IN CUSTODY.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HUMAN RIGHTS, RELIGIOUS LEADERS, DETAINEES, POLICE FORCES, ARRESTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 NOV 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**TAGS:** PINS, PINT, SF  
**To:** STATE  
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